



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Health

M. Norman Oliver, MD, MA
State Health Commissioner

Gary R. Brown
Director

P. Scott Winston
Assistant Director

Office of Emergency Medical Services
1041 Technology Park Drive
Glen Allen, VA 23059-4500

1-800-523-6019 (VA only)
804-888-9100
FAX: 804-371-3108

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Dear Virginia EMS Stakeholders,

It is with great disappointment and deliberation that the **Virginia Office of EMS announces it has cancelled the 2020 Virginia EMS Symposium, scheduled November 11-15, in Norfolk**, due to the current public health climate surrounding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Prior to making this decision, we carefully considered a number of factors. Our instructors, registrants, host city, hotels and businesses of Norfolk, volunteers, exhibitors and staff are instrumental in making the Virginia EMS Symposium one of the largest and most comprehensive EMS training events in the country. Due to many unknown factors in the months ahead, and the amount of advanced planning and commitment required to hold such a complex event, we determined that cancelling this year's event would be in the best interest of the health, safety and well-being of all Virginia EMS Symposium participants.

The Virginia EMS Symposium presents an opportunity to gain quality education, network with fellow EMS personnel and publicly recognize the dedication and service you all provide on a daily basis. We greatly appreciate your understanding in our decision to cancel this year's event and we are confident that the wonderful partnerships the Virginia EMS Symposium program has produced will be maintained in future years.

The Virginia Office of EMS thanks all EMS personnel, including volunteers, staff members and instructors for their continued dedication to the Virginia EMS system, especially throughout this public health crisis.

Please continue to visit the Virginia Office of EMS website and social media channels for updates on EMS certification, the 2020 Governor's EMS Awards and the 2021 Virginia EMS Symposium.

Sincerely,

Gary Brown, Director
Virginia Office of EMS



www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/